

BUREAU FOR DEVELOPMENT, DEMOCRACY, AND INNOVATION LOCAL, FAITH, AND TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNERSHIPS HUB

Limited Excess Property Program





Group of people from Nicaragua wearing masks and holding basic hygiene kits with the help of LEPP donations..

Photo courtesy of World Help.

The Limited Excess Property Program (LEPP) provides Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) access to federal surplus property to support their humanitarian and development projects abroad. LEPP utilizes an innovative model of recovery and reuse to support a variety of development projects that promote sustainability in developing countries. LEPP is managed by USAID's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA), which is part of the Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation's Local, Faith, and Transformative Partnerships (LFT) Hub.

First Quarter LEPP Property Transfer Highlights

A variety of items valued at \$4,012,312 were requisitioned and processed through LEPP in the first quarter of fiscal year 2022. Most of the property was earmarked for regional hospitals and health care centers that serve remote populations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

- CURE International, in partnership with LEPP, processed two ventilators worth \$44,000 to be disbursed to Ethiopia and an X-ray machine worth \$40,356 to be disbursed to Zambia. The ventilators will go to CURE Ethiopia Children's Hospital (CURE Ethiopia) in Addis Ababa. A 71-bed pediatric specialty teaching hospital, CURE Ethiopia performs over 2,500 life-changing reconstructive and orthopedic surgeries each year for children with treatable conditions like clubfoot, burn contractures, cleft lips/palates, and knock knees. The X-ray machine will go to the CURE Children's Hospital of Zambia (CURE Zambia) in the capital city of Lusaka. A 54-bed teaching hospital, CURE Zambia specializes in delivering pediatric orthopedic, ENT, and maxillofacial care for children with treatable disabilities, and performs over 1,600 life-changing reconstructive and orthopedic surgeries each year.
- Food For The Poor (FFTP), in partnership with LEPP, processed \$123,970 worth of electrocardiograms (ECGs) to be disbursed to Jamaica. The ECGs will go to Kingston Public Hospital, the largest and oldest multidisciplinary hospital in the Jamaican Government Health Service, serving the entire population of Jamaica. The ECGs will also go to St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital, the largest health facility in the Northeast Region, serving approximately 360,000 patients; the Mandeville Regional Hospital, serving the town of Mandeville and its environs; and the Cornwall Regional Hospital, which serves over 200,000 patients annually and is the only hospital outside of Kingston that provides most specialist services.
- St. Luke's Health Care Foundation, in partnership with LEPP, processed over \$870,000 worth of federal surplus property to be disbursed to Soddo Christian Hospital (SCH) in Wolaita Soddo, Ethiopia. Of that amount, SCH will receive \$442,000 in orthopedic equipment. The remaining medical equipment, including four ultrasounds and a vein viewer, will go to other departments in the hospital. SCH receives patient referrals for complex trauma, infected fractures, and chronic dislocations from all over Ethiopia in addition to occasional referrals from Kenya, Somalia, and the Sudan.
- World Help, in partnership with LEPP, processed \$114,000 worth of masks and gowns to be disbursed to nearly 100 different health care facilities in six regions of Zambia. The medical supplies will benefit communities in need that are fighting the pandemic but lack the resources to acquire PPE and other medical supplies. In addition, with World Help and LEPP's support, one facility in Nakonde has been able to start and outfit an intensive care unit.



Teo Babun, President/ Executive Director and one of the founders of OAA/ART.

Photo courtesy of Outreach Aid to the Americas/Americas Relief Team.

We are proud to present this quarter's PVO Spotlight! As our PVO partners strive to impact the world by offering disaster relief, humanitarian aid, and emergency preparedness where needed, we will continue to highlight the good work they are doing as well as the good people who are doing the work. In this issue, we are featuring Teo Babun, President/ Executive Director and one of the founders of Outreach Aid to the Americas/Americas Relief Team (OAA/ART).

Q: Outreach Aid to the Americas/Americas Relief Team (OAA/ART) has been a PVO Partner since 2010! We appreciate your partnership. Can you tell us a little about your program and your role?

A: Americas Relief Team (ART) is an initiative of OAA dedicated to helping victims of disasters in the Americas and supporting preparedness and resiliency to strengthen vulnerable communities. OAA/ART works with various partners in the public and private sectors, including affected governments, U.S. Southern Command, airports, sea cargo carriers, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide logistics assistance and humanitarian aid relief to help rebuild lives. OAA/ART also carries out educational programs to help build self-sufficiency and equip partners and at-risk populations with the skills to respond effectively to crises.

OAA/ART has partnered with LEPP since 2010. Together we have seen the positive impacts made in communities thanks to federal surplus property that has been shipped and safely delivered to faith-based institutions, community outreach organizations, and others in several countries in Latin America, including Guatemala, Haiti, Bahamas, and Antigua and Barbuda.

As President and Executive Director of OAA/ART and one of the founders of the organization, I oversee the different projects that OAA staff implements in different countries, provide guidance and support to OAA's local partners, and build strong and long-lasting relationships with OAA U.S.-based partners.



The ART Team gathered at the office, celebrating Thanksgiving and a year of accomplishments, year 2019. Photo courtesy of Outreach Aid to the Americas/Americas Relief Team.

Q: What types of humanitarian aid or development programs are utilizing the federal surplus property transferred by your organization?

A: ART collaborates with partners to stage and ship humanitarian aid following emergencies caused by natural and man-made disasters. At the same time, it provides humanitarian relief to countries whose populations experience food insecurity and other humanitarian problems.

Federal surplus commodities provided through LEPP such as critical supplies, electric generators, health equipment, and hygienic necessities contribute to and complement ART's relief aid to assist the most impoverished communities in the Americas. ART also manages the collaborative efforts of corporations and NGOs to ensure the aid reaches the most affected areas and those most in need. In addition, ART provides ongoing logistics assistance to humanitarian NGOs, conducts educational projects, and implements comprehensive relief plans for Central America and the Caribbean basin region.



Q: What community challenges/problems do these programs try to address? Can you share with us any statistical data related to the problems/challenges?

A: ART humanitarian relief aid initiatives supported by LEPP address several community challenges, including devastation produced by natural and man-made disasters, food insecurity, gang violence, and structural poverty. Additionally, LEPP efforts complement ART's disaster preparedness efforts to help address the limited or lack of capacity in local communities to be resilient and respond to disasters.

Q: What is most gratifying about working with ART and partnering with LEPP?

A: What's most gratifying about working with ART and partnering with LEPP is being able to witness the impact in people's lives. Disasters, like the 2010 Haiti earthquake and hurricanes Eta and lota which struck Central America one after another earlier this year, can be devastating for many communities in the region.

Q: Can you give some tips for other PVO partners on how you've used federal surplus property to successfully support your programs?

A: In the area of humanitarian assistance relief efforts, ART has found that it is critical to consider the following:

- Partnerships are critical to ensure that disaster relief and humanitarian aid programs are successful, especially those partnerships at the local level.
- In coordinating and collaborating with partners, providing critical feedback, recommendations, and information is key.
- Relief assistance must be needs-based and locally led.
- Providing staging warehousing for commodities is a practice we have found helpful.
- If feasible, it can make a big difference to facilitate air and sea transportation for international NGO partners, including vetted faith-based organizations.
- It is important to partner with local media to provide credible information to help those affected by disasters.

Thanks so much for taking the time to help us learn more about your program and your passions, Teo. We look forward to many more years of partnering with Americas Relief Team to continue to serve underserved communities. — The LEPP Team

Get Engaged and Learn More

Read the LEPP FY 2021 Annual Report.

Your stories, photos, videos, and news releases are always welcome. Help us spread the good news about your work and partnership with LEPP. Also, LEPP PVOs and Missions, please notify us of your upcoming LEPP-related public diplomacy events. Please send information to LEPP@USAID.gov.

For further information on the LEPP program, please email: <u>LEPP@USAID.gov</u>.

PARTNER WITH THE LFT HUB

The Limited Excess Property Program is part of the Local, Faith, and Transformative Partnerships (LFT) Hub.

The LFT Hub focuses on strengthening USAID's ability to partner with non-traditional and diverse actors including local, faith-based, and community organizations; schools and hospitals; minority-serving institutions; foundations; diaspora communities; cooperatives; and volunteer organizations. Learn more about how LFT is harnessing the power of partnerships through the following:

- American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA)
- Faith and Neighborhood Partnerships (FBNP)
- Locally Led Development Initiatives (LLDI)
- Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)
- New Partnerships Initiative (NPI)

Also, check out <u>WorkwithUSAID.org</u>, a free resource hub designed for new, current, and future partners to navigate how to work with USAID.

Visit the <u>LFT Hub</u> online:





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